

REMARKS

Claims 1-35 are pending in the instant application. Claims 21-26, 28 and 29-33 are withdrawn from consideration, Claims 3-20, 27, 34 and 35 have been amended and new Claim 36 has been submitted for consideration by the Examiner. Applicants respectfully submit that amended claims 27, 34 and 35 are properly examined with the elected claims.

Claims 4-20 have been amended in order to overcome the objection to these claims for being in improper multiple dependent form. Applicants respectfully requests withdrawal of this objection.

Applicants respectfully submit that the amendment to Claim 3 overcomes the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

The rejection of Claims 1-3 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Heimann et al. (U.S.P.N. 6,322,687), is respectfully traversed.

The publication date of Heimann is not more than one year prior to the effective filing date of the instant application (i.e., the instant application claims benefit of provisional application no 60/426,187, filed on November 14, 2002). Heimann cannot anticipate the claimed invention under 35 U.S.C. 102(b).

Assuming arguendo that Heimann is available under 35 U.S.C. 102, Heimann alone fails to anticipate each and every aspect of the claimed invention as evidenced by reliance on the Electrocoating article. It is important to note that the Electrocoating article teaches that electrodeposition can only take place on electrically conductive substrates. A skilled person in this art would not automatically assume that a silicate containing surface is electrically conductive and, therefore, the Electrocoating article suggests that one would not electrodeposit the claimed resin upon the claimed silicate layer. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Heimann cannot anticipate each and every aspect of the claimed invention, and request withdrawal of this rejection.

Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims define patentable subject matter and request issuance of a Notice of Allowability. Should there be any fee due with this submission or otherwise due in connection with this Application, please charge the same to Deposit Account No. 15-0680 (Orscheln).

Should the Examiner deem that any action on the part of Applicants would advance prosecution, the Examiner is invited to telephone Applicants' attorney.

Respectfully Submitted,



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